

# **Baraboo Economic Development Commission**

## **Meeting Minutes**

### **August 6, 2020**

#### **I. Call Meeting to Order and Note Compliance with Open Meeting Law**

Mayor Palm called the meeting to order at 5:31 PM at the Baraboo Municipal Building, Room 205, 101 South Blvd., Baraboo, WI. The meeting was noticed in conformance with Wisconsin State Statutes regarding open meetings.

#### **II. Roll Call of Membership**

Present: Caflisch, Johnson, Palm, Ryan, Walczak, Wastlund, White

Absent: Bowers, Ayar, Mueller, Taylor

Other: Patrick Cannon

#### **III. Approve Minutes**

Motion to approve the minutes for March 5, 2020 And July 7, 21020 meeting

Johnson (1); Palm (2)

Aye: All via voice vote

Nay: None

#### **IV. Approve Agenda**

Motion to approve the agenda as presented

White (1); Johnson (2)

Aye: All via voice vote

Nay: None

#### **V. Presentation**

None

#### **VI. Action Items**

Election of BEDC Officers

Term to be from August 2020 to May 2021.

Chair: Nanci Caflisch

Vice-Chair: Dave Johnson

Secretary: Carolyn Wastlund

Motion to elect the slate of Officers for a term to run from August 2020 to May 2021

Palm (1); White (2)

Aye: Caflisch, Johnson, Palm, Ryan, Walczak, Wastlund, White (via roll call)

Nay: None

#### **VII. Information/Discussion Items**

##### **a. How did COVID-19 effect your business? A round table discussion with members**

- Mayor Palm
  - The city conducted remote meetings
  - City Hall was closed after the elections to the public
  - Purchased PPE equipment for public safety officers
- Ms. Caflisch
  - The Chamber has lost revenues due to the hotels not being occupied
  - Real Estate is doing well
- Ms. Ryan
  - Almost all of their plans have been altered
  - They are starting to work with Focus on Energy
  - Food Pantry is now including a light bulb with food packet

- Ms. Walczak
  - Hospital has had major changes in their operations
  - No elective surgeries
  - Lack of PPE equipment
  - Volunteers have not been able to return yet
- Mr. White
  - Have not been able to complete business retention visits
  - Worked getting information out regarding various COVID-19 programs
- Mr. Johnson
  - Market moved all over the place.
  - Seems to be getting back towards normal summer volume
- Ms. Wastlund
  - MSA worked from home and few employees are now back into office
  - Field works is back to normal

**b. Updates on Development Activities**

- Mayor Palm updated on the following:
  - Three businesses have closed either permanently or for the season
  - The City completed a Hotel Study
  - Developers are looking at:
    - Hotel
    - Flex space buildings
    - Apartment building
    - Multifamily housing plat
  - Al. Ringling Brewery is getting closer to opening
  - Library project is moving forward
  - City projects are under way for the summer
  - City did some economic development programs in response to COVID-19

**c. Updates from Commissioners and their representative entities**

- Schools will open on September 1, 2020
- SCDC is working with Workforce development

**d. Continued discussion on housing options for possible future recommendation to City Council**

City has a map of potential properties

**e. Review and discuss 2020 goals for BEDC**

The Board was asked to think of goals for 2020/2021 for next meeting

Housing

Business Walk for 2022

**f. Review and discuss BEDC tour schedule of local businesses**

This will be held in abeyance due to COVID-19

**VIII. Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made at 6:42 pm.

White (1); Caflisch (2)

Aye: All via voice vote

Nay: None

Mike Palm  
Mayor

Patrick Cannon  
Recorder